

# Happy

By Jonathan Elliott

Exterior. Sunset Blvd. Grant Clay is driving down the street in a purple Ferrari GT. He stops in front of a storefront of women's dresses. He pays the parking meter and enters.

Interior. The store. Miranda is trying on a dress. Francine, the seamstress is helping.

Francine

It looks gorgeous darling.  
You could be Bette Davis  
With the right errings.

Miranda

You're such a hustler  
Francine. I love you.  
It's a little tight in the back  
Though don't you think?

Grant

Not at all, it shows  
What a great behind you have.

Miranda

You're not the one who  
Has to wear it.

Grant

Funny. If you like  
She'll make room for you.

Miranda

It's fine. If you like it  
Darling. Let's take it.

Grant

Great. Can we go to  
Lunch now?

Miranda  
Can you have it ready  
By Thursday, it's Oscar  
Night?

Francine  
No problem.

Miranda (in the booth)  
Where do you want to  
Go for lunch?

Grant  
I thought we could  
Get a burger or something  
Across the street.

Miranda  
Why don't we stay on  
This side and go to  
Chin Chin?

Grant  
Fine with me.

Exterior. Sunset Blvd. Miranda and Grant are walking to the restaurant.

Miranda  
Do you seriously like it?

Grant  
Absolutely. You look like  
A real star.

Miranda  
It is gorgeous.

They arrive at the restaurant.

Hostess  
Table for two?

Grant  
Someplace outside.

Hostess  
No problem.

They are seated.

Grant  
Now I feel like an idiot.

Miranda  
Why?

Grant  
You looked so beautiful in that dress.  
I should have brought you flowers.

Miranda  
Ahhh. Honey that's o.k.  
You're such a sweetie sometimes.

Grant  
Come on...

Miranda  
No, I mean it.

Grant  
Let's have the cashew chicken.  
It's excellent.

Miranda  
And some soup.

Grant

You got it.

Miranda  
There's something you never told me.

Grant  
Something you are curious about?

Miranda  
Very.

Grant  
Well, go ahead, ask away..

Miranda  
Where did you get all your money?  
I mean, you don't work. You don't  
Deal drugs... as far as I can tell.  
You don't kill for a living...  
What is it?

Grant  
That's it? That's the profound question.

Miranda  
I'm serious Grant. I want to know.  
We've been dating long enough.

Grant  
Two months.

Miranda  
Well I slept with you didn't I.  
I would think a girl has some rights  
In a relationship.

Grant  
Not necessarily.

Miranda  
Come on...

Grant  
My father died and left me  
A lot of money. He had a  
Rubber factory in Paraguay.

Miranda  
No fooling?

Grant  
I swear.

Miranda  
How much?

Grant  
You really need to know?

Miranda  
Actually, yes.

Grant  
Enough to pay for the dress.  
More than a hundred million.

Miranda  
Jeez. All my daddy left me was  
A tractor trailer.

Grant  
You're kidding.

Miranda  
Serious.

Grant  
That's funny.

Interior. Ferrari. They are speeding down Sunset. Late afternoon.

Miranda  
Do you think we'll ever get married.

Grant  
I don't know. That's a big word with me.  
Like anti-septic or catatonic.

Miranda  
Really?

Grant  
No, I'm just making that part up.

They arrive at his Malibu beach house. He opens the door for her.

Miranda  
Always the gentleman.

He checks the mail.  
They enter.

Interior. The Malibu beach house. It is stunning work of art and the interior is impeccable.

Miranda  
What do you feel like doing?

Grant  
I don't know. Just get comfortable.  
I'm going to the bathroom.  
I ate too much.

She turns on the stereo. The Rolling Stones are playing "30,000 light years away from Home" Grant goes upstairs and grabs a bottle of Codeine. He looks in the mirror And checks his shave. He shaves. He cuts his finger on the blade and Wraps it. He throws the cartridge in the garbage. He looks at the pills. He takes many of them.  
The music plays. Move to livingroom.

The camera pans up her body on the couch.

Miranda  
Grant... Grant... are you  
Coming... Grant....

Interior. Daniel J. Freeman Memorial Hospital. Later that afternoon. We hear the beep beep beep of a heartrate machine. A nurse is approaching Grant (on a bed) with a Needle.

Joe (a patient in the hall)  
Stick it up his ass!

Nurse  
Mr. Hamilton, please return

To your room.

Joe  
I mean it. Right up the sphincter!

An assistant escorts Joe  
Down the hall.

Nurse  
How are you feeling Mr. Clay?

Grant  
Where am I?

Nurse  
At the Marina Hospital Mr. Clay.  
You have suffered an overdose  
Of codeine.

Grant  
I didn't think you could overdose with  
Those.

Nurse  
Well congratulations.  
You are lucky to live through the  
Amount you took.

Grant  
Guess I've worked up a  
Tolerance.

Nurse  
Apparently.

Grant  
How did I get here?

Nurse  
Your girlfriend  
Was smart enough to  
Call an ambulance.

Grant  
She's sweet. Huh?



Nurse

Yes she's very nice Mr. Clay.  
Now try to relax.  
You can get up for dinner in  
An hour. It's across the  
Hallway in the kitchen.

Grant

Thank you.

Grant closes his eyes.

Cut to: Kitchen. Grant's house. Credit's read "Thirty years ago." Grant is in the room with his mother pacing. He is watching Captain Kangaroo, not paying attention.

Mom

You're not paying attention to me.  
Did you hear what I said?

Grant

Yes Ma'am.

Mom

Well? What do you have to  
Say for yourself?

Grant

I just don't like it.

Mom

Did you ever think, maybe it was good  
For you?

Grant

No.

Mom

Popeye eats it.

Grant

That's Popeye. Besides,  
He smoked it.

Mom

That's true. Spinach is good for you.

It's healthy. You need to learn to like it.  
Don't you want to be big and strong?

Grant (watching Cpt. Kangaroo)  
Yeah. I'm big and strong.

Mom  
I tell you what Superman,  
You sit here and finish that  
Spinach or you're not leaving.  
How does that sound?

Grant  
Fine with me.

Time lapse of the clock  
Three hours go by.  
Mom re-enters the room.

Mom  
Go to bed now.

Grant  
Yes ma'am.

We see the clock count time. Back to present.  
Grant gets up in the hospital room  
and starts for the kitchen  
Joe is at the table with his  
Face in a bowl of cereal.  
Eric, Nikki, Tim & Marc are other  
Patients eating dinner.

Grant  
Looking good man.

Joe  
Huh, what?

Eric  
That's just Joe.  
He's finding himself.

Tim  
Yeah man, it's a zen thing.

Nikki  
He always eats his cereal like that.

Grant  
How do you eat your cereal when you're  
Passed out.

Joe  
Practice.

Eric  
Don't pay any attention to him.  
He's a speedballer.

Joe  
Recovering.

Nikki  
Yeah, right.

Tim  
You know the other day, I had this  
Enlightening experience.

Grant  
What happened?

Tim  
I was up around midnight.  
I came in here to get a  
Sandwich and I walked by  
This spoon and I said to  
Myself man, look at you  
Going to fix peanut butter.

Grant  
Then what happened?

Tim  
I passed out.

Eric  
Beautiful man. Beautiful.

Grant

Anybody want to play cards?

Tim  
Sure.

Eric  
I'm in.

Nikki  
Me too.

Joe  
I'm in.

Grant starts to deal.

Eric  
I guess we're like the  
Rat pack, eh?

Tim  
Yeah man. The crack pack.

Joe  
Hey, no drug references.

Tim  
You're the mean one, Frank Sinatra.

Eric  
Nikki is Shirley McLaine.

Grant  
That makes you Dean Martin

Eric  
And you're Joey Bishop.

Grant  
Hilarious. Deal the cards...

Eric  
Deal 'em Shirley.

Grant  
How did you guys get in here?

Eric  
I started dating Shirley.

Nikki  
I started dating Deano.

Tim  
I just liked heroin.

Mark  
How did I get to be Sammy Davis Jr?

Eric  
Your skin is the darkest.

Mark  
Man. I got here because  
I have a love affair with cocaine.

Grant  
What are the stakes?

Eric  
We'll play for matchsticks.

Tim  
Perfect. I have two packs.

Nikki  
That makes you a millionaire.

Eric  
What are you in here for Joey?

Joe  
Speed.

Eric  
Not you Joe, you're Frank, remember.  
Grant is Joey. Doesn't he look like Joey?

Mark  
I see it.

Tim

Me too.

Grant  
Here's to the crack pack.

They clink coffee mugs.

Interior. The meeting room of the hospital. . Later that day.  
The Reverend Marty Nation is giving a sermon. He is tattooed all the way up both arms

Martin  
Cocaine is evil. It will  
Mess you up. It will eat  
You up and chew you up  
And spit you out. I want  
To hear from some of you today.  
I want you to share your  
Most scandalous experiences.  
Don't be afraid brothers,  
Don't be afraid sister.  
It's now or never.  
There is no turning back from here.  
You are all in here because you  
Are stone cold junkies.

Nikki  
Me and Eric have been here before.  
We were here four weeks and  
Went home and cooked  
The dirty spoons.

Mark  
Woooooah.

Tim  
I used to do that.

Grant  
You people are truly sadistic.

Eric  
That was one of the better stories.

Marty  
The better ones?

You are all vicious cunning  
Sinners, capable of  
Hurting yourself and others.  
When you decide to  
Get honest and admit this,  
You are already half way  
Home.

Mark  
Amen brother Marty. Amen.

Interior. Grant's room. Miranda is seated at the chair and Grant is in bed.  
"Standing In the Shadows of Love" is playing.

Grant  
This is one of my favorite songs.

Miranda  
Me too.

Grant  
I always said we were a lot alike.

Miranda  
It's true.

Grant  
You think?

Miranda  
Sometimes. But you get  
A lot weirder than I do.

Grant  
Nahhh. I just have more  
Nervous symptoms.

Miranda  
Not all the time.  
We were going pretty good  
There for awhile.

Grant  
I was going to tell you something.

Miranda

What was it?

Grant  
Ahhh, jeez, I can't remember

Miranda  
Well you can always remember  
Later and write me, or call.

Grant  
I will.

Miranda  
I should get going.

Grant  
Why the hurry?

Miranda  
I have dinner with your ex-wife.

Grant  
You're kidding?

Miranda  
Not at all. I thought  
She might give me some insights  
Into how to handle you.

Grant  
I am a handful.

Miranda  
Don't I know it.

Grant  
Well, adios amigos.

Miranda  
Goodbye Mr. Clay.

She kisses him.



Interior. Hospital Night time. Grant get's up and heads for the hallway. He looks left, looks right. Then starts for the kitchen. He gets halfway there when he is stopped by Kurt, an ailing rock and roller.

Kurt  
Where you going?

Grant  
Make a baloney sandwich.

Kurt  
Yeah, taste good?

Grant  
They're alright.

Kurt  
Make one for me.

Kurt goes back to his room.

Interior. Kitchen. Grant is making a sandwich when Timmy walks in.

Grant  
Hey. I can't remember  
Who are you?

Timmy  
I guess I'm Peter Lawford.  
But my name is Timmy.

Grant  
Oh yeah.

Eric and Nikki walk in.  
Joe is in the cereal.

Eric  
You guys ready for cards.

Mark (entering)  
Someone's got to wake up Frank.

Marty (enters)

I'll do it. Sinner repent!

Joe (awakening)  
God, for a second I thought you  
Were my ex-wife.

Nikki  
Time to play cards , Frank.

Joe  
Deal em. I'm in.

They play awhile. Smoking, drinking coffee.

Grant  
How did you and Shirley meet?

Eric  
Shirl and I? Oh she was dating  
The drummer of my band and  
Then I fired him and we ran  
Away together.

Grant  
How did you get here?

Nikki  
We decided to go to my parents  
House on the East coast and  
Visit for thanksgiving.

Eric  
Then we needed some dope and  
I called my guitar player.  
He was in the room with the old drummer.  
He must have turned us in. When  
I arrived at the airport the FBI  
Was waiting for us.

Grant  
So he finked on you?

Nikki  
Yeah, he was always a prick.

Eric  
I still want to fuckin kill him

Grant  
I don't blame you.

Mark  
Hey Deal the cards Dino.  
While it's still today.

Grant  
I think it's tomorrow already.

Mark  
Whatever. Just deal 'em.

Fade out.

Interior. Grant's bathroom. Morning. He's running the shower and smoking a joint.  
There is a knock at the door.

Grant  
Yes?

Nurse  
Mr. Clay, the Doctor  
Is ready for you.

Grant  
I'll be there in just a minute.

He turns off the shower and  
Flushes the toilet.  
He exits  
And walks down the hall  
To

Exterior. Courtyard. Dr. Selznick is waiting for him and offers him a chair.

Dr. Selznick  
Goodmorning

Grant  
Hello Doctor.

Dr. Selznick  
How are you feeling.

Grant  
Just fine. Fine and dandy.

Dr. Selznick  
Do you know what day it is today?

Grant  
Thursday.

Dr. Selznick  
Who is the President?

Grant  
George Bush, Sr.

Dr. Selznick  
Very good.

Grant  
Thank you. I pride myself  
On my public awareness.

Dr. Selznick  
Do you know why you are here?

Grant  
Not particularly.

Dr. Selznick  
You overdosed on codeine medication.

Grant  
To tell you the truth, I didn't know that  
Was possible.

Dr. Selznick  
I'm afraid so.

Grant  
Really?

Dr. Selznick

You know, to be honest,  
This is the most lucid and  
Candid I have ever seen  
You since you arrived.

Grant  
Come on, really?

Dr. Selznick  
Absolutely.

Grant  
That's incredible.

Dr. Selznick  
Why?

Grant  
I just don't feel that  
Way.

Dr. Selznick  
Well you could have fooled me.

Grant  
Hmmm

Interior. Afternoon. The Reverend Martin Nation is giving a sermon in the  
Common room. All the patients are seated.

Martin  
Each and every one of you  
Is a despicable, deplorable  
Sinner. Whether you are  
A tooter, a pill popper,  
A stoner, a speed freak  
A heroin junkie. You are  
All suffering a disease  
Of mind and a disease of the body.  
The question I wish to address today is  
Are you willing to admit to yourselves  
The powerlessness of your fight  
Against addiction and accept that  
Your lives have become unmanageable.

Eric  
Can I ask a question?

Martin  
Not yet.

Deanna  
Can I go to the bathroom?

Martin  
Of course.

Martin  
Maybe some of you are willing  
To share you experiences with  
Us today.

Nikki  
Well, I don't know about the rest  
Of you, but for me and Eric, this is  
Our second time here. We both  
Are heroin addicts and thought  
We had it licked the first time.  
I guess we were only fooling ourselves.

Martin  
What drove you back to using?

Eric  
We enjoyed it?

Martin  
Did you enjoy the destruction of your  
Own lives that followed? Did you  
Enjoy the way it tore your family apart?  
Did you enjoy the way you were  
Unable to function in society.

Nikki  
Not particularly

Martin  
Well the sooner you can admit  
That, the closer you are to recovery.

Interior. The Beverly Hills Hotel Polo Lounge. Later that day. Miranda is at the bar  
Drinking with Grant's ex-wife, Sofia.

Sofia

He did that? Really? I told you, Grant  
Has always been an attention getter.

Miranda

Everything was going so well Sofia.  
He had just bought me a new dress  
For Oscar's night, for god's sake.

Sofia

Well don't take it personally darling.  
Grant is, deep down, a selfish child,  
A masochist, a sadist, and a selfish  
Idiot. Why do you think I divorced  
Him?

Miranda

For the money?

Sofia

Is that what he says? Honey, I had  
my own money.

Miranda

Actually, he rarely talks about it.

Sofia

That's because he's always busy talking  
About himself.

Miranda

Sometimes he is a child.

Sofia

Honey, he'll tear your heart out if  
You let him.

Miranda

What should I do?

Sofia

My advice? Seriously? You  
Should find yourself a Greek god  
And don't look back.

Miranda

I love Grant. He's funny.

Sofia

Funny enough to try and kill  
Himself why you are in the livingroom.  
Where is the charm in that?

Miranda

Every scene isn't suicide with him Sofia.  
He has tender loving moments.

Sofia

Between golf games? When?

Miranda

You're being catty.

Sofia

Learn from it. It'll keep you safe.

Miranda

I don't understand.

Sofia

He's all bottled up. He hides  
Everything. One minute you think  
Everything is great, the next, whammo!

Miranda

Do you think he's dangerous?

Sofia

Only to himself honey, only  
To himself.



Interior. Common room of hospital. Grant is speaking to the group.

Grant

My father was a benefactor of the poor.  
He gave a lot of money to the disabled,  
To the homeless, fighting poverty. He  
Rarely spent time with me.

Martin

So you thought you'd go out and use  
Drugs to catch his attention? Is that  
It?

Grant

Actually, no. I didn't really begin to  
Use drugs until after his death.

Deanna

It sounds like you haven't been fully able  
To cope with his death.

Grant

I think that is true to some extent.

Martin

What you have got to realize is that  
You are a stone cold, hopeless  
Junkie.

Grant

Thanks reverend. By the way,  
Where did you get your credential  
As a preacher?

Martin

Remember the old classified ads  
Of Rolling Stone Magazine?

Grant

In the seventies?

Martin

Exactly.

Grant

That's hilarious.

Martin

Well I'll admit that I am not  
A master of theology. But  
I tell you one thing I did master,  
My craving for drugs and alcohol.  
Everybody, thanks for coming.  
I'll see you next week.

The patients begin to walk out.

Interior. The Beverly Hills Polo Lounge. Miranda is finishing a drink. Later that evening.

Sofia

You want another one?

Miranda

Sure.

Sofia

Bartender... Two seven and sevens.

Miranda

Do you think he'll ever settle down?

Sofia

The truth. You want the truth?

Miranda

Yes, of course.

Sofia

He'll drop you for the next  
Piece of ass he finds on Sunset Blvd.

Miranda

I know.

Sofia

If I know Grant Clay, he's probably  
Getting down right now in the hospital.

Interior. The Kitchen of the hospital. Grant is looking up the legs of Tricia.  
She is a patient suffering from heroin addiction.

Grant

Have you been here long.

Tricia

Long enough to notice you  
Looking at my legs.

Grant

Do you mind?

Tricia

Not really.

Grant

How come?

Tricia

You're kind of cute.

Grant

I'd invite you back to  
My room but the only thing  
To do is play with my i.v. machine.

Tricia

That's funny.

Grant

Yeah, I should have been a comedian.

Tricia  
We could play cards.

Grant  
Then the whole crack pack will  
Arrive.

Tricia  
Who'se that?

Grant  
You know, Dino, Frank, Shirley,  
Joey.

Tricia  
I thought they split up years  
Ago?

Grant  
Nah. It's a whole new era.

Tricia  
Ahh.. I see.

Eric (enters)  
How's it going Joey?

Tricia  
Why does he call you Joey?

Grant  
I'm Joey Bishop.

Tricia  
I thought you said you were  
Grant Clay?

Joey (enters)  
That's just his codename  
On the inside.

Tricia  
I thought I was the only one  
Screwed up in here.

Nikki (entering)  
Good luck.

Tricia  
What's his codename on the outside?

Joey  
Grant Clay.

Grant  
I told you Dino,  
We're supposed to be  
Anonymous in here.

Tricia  
The Grant Clay?  
The guy who inherited his  
Father's rubbermaking  
Plant?

Grant (to camera)

Grant  
She loves me now.

Tricia  
I thought you got lost in  
Bermuda and were swallowed  
By crocodiles.

Grant  
Duh.... That was last month  
Honey.

Tricia  
So what is it this week?

Grant  
This week I'm a raging  
Alcoholic.

Tricia (enamored)  
Wow.

Interior. Polo Lounge. Sofia to Miranda. Later that evening.

Sofia  
He's a dirtbag is what he is.

Miranda  
But, there's something about  
Him...

Sofia  
Something about Mary  
Honey, start with that.

Miranda  
What about Mary?

Sofia  
It's just a vision of jealousy.

Miranda  
What do you mean?

Sofia  
Let's just say when you get to  
Know Grant, the past ain't  
The past and the future as  
You thought it was going to  
Be, just isn't.

Miranda  
What do you mean by that.

Sofia  
Well, and honey, I'm not  
Trying to be mean here,  
But he says one thing and  
Does another, says one  
Thing and does another...

Interior. Common area room. Grant is with Tricia. A nurse walks in.  
They are on the couch now.

Nurse  
Will you guys turn the  
Lights off when you leave?

Grant  
Of course.

Tricia  
We will.

Nurse  
Just remember, no making out.

Grant  
We won't.

She leaves.  
They make out.

Tricia  
I think...

Grant  
It's just my teeth caught  
On your bra strap.

Tricia  
Is that what it is?

He stretches it and  
It snaps.

Grant  
You like that?

Tricia  
Ow!

Grant  
Sorry

Tricia (laughing)  
I'm just kidding.

Grant  
Wow you got me.

They make out some more.

Tricia  
You know who I think is really handsome?

Grant  
Who?

Tricia  
Jeremy Doolittle?

Grant  
Wow?

Tricia  
Wow what?

Grant  
Am I misbehaving or what?

Tricia  
He's just... sometimes he  
Looks like a rugged cowboy.

Grant (getting up)  
I can't believe I'm hearing this.

Tricia  
What?

Grant  
No wonder I take pills.



Interior. Polo Lounge. Sofia and Miranda.

Sofia  
He's a pig.

Miranda  
Sounds like you love him.

Sofia  
Well, part of me still adores  
Him, don't get me wrong.

Miranda  
What part?

Sofia  
The part of him that is  
Still a child.

Miranda  
Is there another part?

Sofia  
Not really.

Miranda  
How did you first meet?

Sofia  
His father introduced us  
At a society function.

Miranda  
Was it love at first sight?

Sofia  
I'm afraid so. He was a  
Good dancer, funny.  
A real ladies man.

Miranda  
That's Grant all right.

Sofia  
Just be careful he  
Doesn't break your heart

They pay the check and  
Start to leave.

Miranda  
Can I drive you somewhere?

Sofia  
That's all right. I took a taxi.  
I like taxis.

Miranda  
You sure? It's no trouble at  
All.

Sofia  
I'll be fine honey.  
It was nice to see you though.  
Let's do it again soon.

Miranda  
You're on.

Interior. The lab at the hospital. Early morning. An orderly is taking blood from Grant.

Orderly  
Let me just find a vein.

Grant  
I try not to watch these days.  
It makes it easier.

Orderly  
Well, blood is blood.

Grant  
Yeah, it's just the part where  
It's flowing out of my body  
That gets to me.

Orderly  
I don't blame you. First time  
I did this I passed out.

Grant  
Me too.

Orderly  
Well, that it.

Grant  
What are you looking for?

Orderly  
Hepatitis A, B, C.

Grant  
That's a relief.

Orderly  
Why?

Grant  
I don't know. Just  
Making conversation.

Orderly  
I see.

Grant looks out the window.  
One of the patients is being chased in his  
Pajamas in the parking lot.

Grant  
Run Freddy. Run!

Orderly  
He won't get very far.

Grant  
Yeah. Looks like they tackled him  
Before he reached the street.

Orderly  
One of em is an ex-football player.

Grant  
God, that looks like it hurt.

Orderly  
Probably did.

Interior. Grant's Malibu beach house. Early morning. Miranda opens the door and enters. She checks the message machine (v.o) "Hi Grant this is Stacey, I thought maybe We could get together this week. Call me." BEEP (v.o) Grant, this is Melissa, Where have you been?" BEEP. Miranda goes to the stereo and puts on the c.d. "Emily" by Zoot Simms plays softly. She goes to the couch and starts to cry.

Interior. Hospital. Grant's bedroom. He gets into bed.

Nurse  
Is there anything I can get you?

Grant  
A scotch and soda?

Nurse  
Besides alcohol?

Grant  
Maybe a Tylenol or some  
Other kind of aspirin. I  
Have a headache.

Nurse  
Just one, or two.

Grant  
Three.

Nurse  
You can only have two.

Grant  
Two then.

She exits and returns quickly.  
He's asleep.  
She leaves them by the bed.

Interior. Grant's Malibu beach house bathroom. Morning. The music is playing sweetly.  
Miranda grabs a bottle of pills and heads downstairs.

Interior. Morning. The kitchen of the hospital. Nikki, Tim, Joey and Erica are playing cards.

Nikki  
Hearts are wild.

Joey  
Does a straight beat a flush?

Timmy  
I think so.

Eric  
Hell, I don't know.

Nikki  
Where's Joey Bishop?  
We can't play without  
Joey.

Eric  
Maybe we should postpone the game.

Joey  
Nah, wake his ass up.

Timmy  
You do it.

Eric  
All right.

Eric leaves.

Inteiror. Malibu beach house. The bar. Miranda is mixing a drink.  
She heads over to the sofa and starts to take the pills. One at a time.

Interior. Grant's hospital room. Eric and Grant are in the room.

Eric  
Hey Grant, wake up.

Grant  
What's up?

Eric  
We're playing cards.

Grant  
Well play without me.

Eric  
We can't.

Grant  
All right.

He gets up. They enter the kitchen. The orderly walks in.

Orderly  
Hey you guys. Everybody  
Ready to go to the gym?

Nikki  
Not really.

Tim  
Where is it?

Orderly  
A few miles down the road.

Grant  
Are we walking?

Orderly  
No. We take the van.

Grant  
I could use the walk.

Orderly  
You're coming with the  
Rest of us.

Interior. The Gym. Afternoon. Some are lifting weights, some are playing basketball.  
Mike and Grant are playing pool. "I'm gonna Let it Slide" is playing on the radio.

Grant  
Great. Another song about  
Me smoking pot.

Mike  
That's funny.

Grant  
I'll break.

Mike  
Go ahead.

Grant (misses everything)  
Mike (puts one in)

Grant  
Nice shot.

Mike  
Thanks.

Grant  
It looks like the one  
Yellow in the corner.  
Ahhh, missed it.

Mike  
If you hit three rails  
It's not a scratch.

Grant  
I didn't know that.  
Good to know.

Mike  
Yeah.

Grant  
I'll try the four, purple  
On the side.

Mike  
Nice one.

Time lapse of the game.

Grant  
You get one more try  
For that eight ball.  
Ahhh... good game...

Mike  
Thanks.

Orderly  
All right everyone.  
It's time. Sign out.

They head back to the van.



Inside the van. “Hang On St. Christopher” comes on the radio. D.j. “and now a tune headed for number one with a blast.... The bullet boys...”

Timmy  
Dude, turn it up. That’s my song.

Eric  
Nice bass man.

Timmy  
I’m singing.

Eric  
Yeah.

Grant  
I like it.

Nikki  
Shut up. I’m listening.

Van pulls up.  
They get out.

Interior. Late afternoon. The patients enter the double doors and head for their rooms.

Interior. Grant’s hospital room. He climbs into bed with a sigh and closes his eyes.

Interior. LAX airport. Credits read “Twenty years earlier.” Grant is with his Dad and Family.

Dad  
Get the bags inside.

Grant  
I got them all Pop.

Mom  
Honey do you have his  
Ticket?

Grant  
I've got it Ma.

Mom (adjusting his collar)  
There you go. Do you  
Need a Dramamine for the  
Flight?

Grant  
Nah...I'll be all right.

Mom  
You sure? You always  
Get sick on these long  
Flights.

Grant  
I'm sure.

Airport attendant  
These all the bags?

Grant  
Yes.

Airport attendant  
Where you all headed?

Mom  
Italy.

Grant  
I thought we were going  
To London first?

Mom  
No honey, after.

Dad (leaning against the column)  
Wow man, dig these.

Grant  
What?

Dad  
I said dig these.

Grant  
I didn't hear you.

Dad  
Dig these crazy columns man.

Grant  
Dad, you're so funny. What's so  
Special about the columns?

Dad  
You'll find out when we get  
To Italy. There are all different  
Ones. You know them?

Grant  
That doesn't look like anyone  
I know.

Dad  
It's wide, huh?

Grant  
Widest column I ever saw.

Dad  
Come on. Let's get on  
The plane. Yeah, we'll  
See the columns.

Interio. Hospital room. Evening. Grant is on the table and they are drawing blood.

Orderly  
Does this hurt.

Grant  
Only when you put  
The needle in. I  
Try to keep my  
Eyes closed when you do  
This now. It's easier.

Orderly  
There. Wait. Let me put  
On a band aid.

Grant  
And can I get an extra one  
For the last time you did it?

Orderly  
Sure. There you go.

Grant leaves and walks down the hallway to his room. Enter Sofia.

Grant  
We'll look what the cat dragged in.

Sofia  
Always at your wits.

Grant  
Thanks darling.

Sofia  
I brought you a box of chocolates.

Grant  
What kind?

Sofia  
Does it matter.

Grant  
No. I'm just teasing.

Sofia  
I know.

Grant  
How's it going with the store?

Sofia  
Sales are good. Can't complain.

Grant  
Yeah? That's good.

Sofia  
I'm going to Greece next week  
To look at tables and lamps.

Grant  
That's nice.

Sofia  
You seem hazy. Far away.

Grant  
Must be the Vicodin.

Sofia  
You came in with a codeine addiction  
And decided to leave with Vicodin?

Grant  
It's for the pain...

Sofia  
Ah right... the pain.... The pain...  
Where?

Grant  
In my ass. Would you believe I have  
A pain in my ass?

Sofia  
No.

Grant  
Well I do. It hurts.

Sofia  
You're hilarious.

Grant  
What can I say?

Sofia  
I was hoping you were going  
To tell me you are getting better.

Grant  
I am.

Sofia  
Sounds like it.

Grant  
Don't rush me.

Sofia  
I'm not rushing you.  
I want you to stop  
Hurting yourself.

Grant  
Come on honey.

Sofia  
Ha! Don't honey me.  
This is serious.

Grant  
You're always serious.  
That's why we aren't  
Married anymore.

Sofia  
It's better this way.

Grant  
Yeah. We get along better  
Now don't we?

Sofia  
Yes we do.

Grant  
Any news.

Sofia  
I had a drink with Miranda.  
She's a nice girl. She  
Doesn't deserve a shlub like you.  
I told her she needs a big Greek stud.

Grant  
Thanks.  
How is she?

Sofia  
She's fine.

Grant  
That's nice.

Interior. Grant's apartment. Paramedics are giving Miranda defibrillation and Adrenaline shots.

Paramedic  
Come on honey. Breathe. Breathe.

Paramedic 2  
I can't get a pulse.

Sound of a flatline on the monitor.

Paramedic  
Jesus.

Paramedic 2  
She's really beautiful.

Paramedic  
What do you want to  
Do her Harry? Come on  
Let's pack it up and go.

They put her on a stretcher and cover her face. They wheel her out.

Interior. Hospital. Grant is in the office with Dr. Murphy. He is tapping his pencil.

Dr. Murphy  
Are you sure you are ready for this?

Grant  
To get released? Yeah. Are you  
Kidding? I'm looking forward  
To life on the outside.

Dr. Murphy  
I hope you'll continue you're  
Regular attendance at alcoholics  
Anonymous meetings.

Grant  
I thought you weren't suppose to publicize.

Dr. Murphy  
This isn't publicity Grant. It's  
Consultation.



Grant  
What happen to the other Dr?  
Dr. Franklin?

Dr. Murphy  
Turns out he had a gambling problem  
And took hospital money and  
Blew it at the ponies.

Grant (laughing)  
Well go easy on him.

Dr. Murphy  
He might end up in jail.

Grant  
He was always decent to me.  
I hope it works out for him.

Dr. Murphy  
Who knows. That doesn't concern me.  
What I am interested to know about  
Is whether you feel you are  
Ready to embark on your journey?

Grant  
God you make it sound like I'm going up the Nile  
On a riverboat in a sarcophagus.

Dr. Murphy  
Don't be dramatic. Try to focus  
On your present situation.

Grant  
I will Doctor. Hey, who knows,  
Maybe I'll send you a postcard.

Dr. Murphy  
I'd like that.

Grant  
Thanks Doc.

They shake hands. Grant departs.

Interior. Grant's Ferrari. Macho Suarez pulls the car up. He is Grant's assistant.

Macho  
He boss. Have a nice stay?

Grant  
Third time.

Macho  
It's a charm.

Grant  
Good luck, huh?

Macho (laughing)  
You'll need it boss.  
You look good though.  
Rested?

Grant  
Sort of. I guess you could say that.  
You want to drive me to New York City?

Macho  
Why not?

Grant  
I'm just kidding Macho.  
Got any grass?

Macho  
Not yet.

Grant  
Any parties?

Macho  
Terry's house.

Grant  
Terry. Really? That  
Old hermit. What happened?

Macho  
His wife left.

Grant  
We should get him a hooker  
Or something. Cheer him up.  
I don't want to show up empty  
Handed.

Macho  
You're disgusting boss.

Grant  
I know. I'm terrible. You  
Never know, it might cheer him  
Up. You never know.

Macho  
I know some mariachi's.

Grant  
Perfect. Use my cell phone.

Macho (dialing)  
Maria. Yeah it's Macho.  
What's Frank's number?  
Thanks.

He hangs up and dials.

Macho  
Frank. Hey, Macho.  
Que paso?

Cut to:

Frank in a Mariachi hat at the phone in his one bedroom apartment. The others on the couch tuning up.

Frank  
Macho. Ohla. What's happening?  
Oh no man. We're tuning up

For a wedding...

We hear Grant in the background (v.o) "tell him there's a thousand dollars in it..."

Well, maybe I can tell her  
Zapata o'd or something...  
What's the address?

He writes it down.

Frank  
Two o'clock. Si Senior.

He puts the phone down.

Interior. Car.

Macho  
Where to now boss?

Grant  
The Cantina.

Macho  
A little celebration?

Grant  
Obviously.

Macho  
At the little cantina  
In the marina?

Grant  
Yeah why not?

Macho  
Man, I thought we could  
At least hit Mazatlan  
Or Nogales for some  
Pills, something...

Grant  
Maybe later...  
I don't feel like  
Traveling too much  
For anything right now.

Macho  
Still woozy from the  
Anti-pschotics?

Grant  
A little. Like chasing a  
Frog in a blizzard.

Macho  
Gotcha.

They pull into the cantina.

Waiter  
Table for two?

Grant  
No, we'll just hang  
On the patio.

Serena  
Hi fellas.

Grant  
Well hello.

Serena  
I'm Serena and this  
Is my friend Celeste.

Grant  
Really, nice to meet you?

Macho  
You ladies like a drink?

Grant  
Yeah, anything you want...

Serena  
No thanks, we're all  
Taken care of.

Richy  
You see the thing about girls  
Grant, is you have to reach  
Them first.

Grant  
Ah, diced again.

Richy  
I heard about your accident.

Grant  
Who told you?

Miranda  
Miranda, before she died.  
Got that was a shame.

Grant  
Before she died?

Macho  
Uh boss... there's something  
I forgot to tell you...

Grant  
Something you forgot to tell  
Me would have been like  
You forgot to take my dry cleaning  
In. Macho, this is a little  
Bigger. You could  
Have told me first instead of  
The bar boy hear.

Serena  
The bar boy? You told us  
You owned a yacht?

Grant  
He cleans a yacht. Mine.

Serena  
Oh I see.

Grant  
Wow, isn't a lovely day.

Macho  
Sure is boss.

Grant  
You girls want to go to  
A party?

Celeste  
Sure, why not?

Macho  
I'll draw you a map.

Serena  
You sure the host won't mind us  
Dropping by.

Grant (looking at her bikini top)  
I'm sure.

Interior. Terry's house in the Malibu colony. The house is crowded with guests.  
Macho and Grant enter.

Terry  
Grant. Grant and Mario.

Macho  
Macho

Terry  
That's right. Come on  
In enjoy the party...

End of first part.

Grant  
Wow, isn't a lovely day?

Macho  
Sure is boss.

Grant  
You girls want to go to  
A party?

Celeste  
Sure, why not?

Macho  
I'll draw you a map.

Serena  
You sure the host won't mind us  
Dropping by.

Grant (looking at her bikini top)  
I'm sure.

Interior. Terry's house in the Malibu colony. The house is crowded with guests.  
Macho and Grant enter.

Terry  
Grant. Grant and Mario.

Macho  
Macho

Terry  
That's right. Come on  
In enjoy the party...

End of first part.

Terry  
You want a drink?

Grant  
I'm on the wagon.



The girls walk in...

Terry  
Which wagon... the one  
Marked girls?

Grant  
No... we just picked them up  
At the cantina... The wagon that  
Says no more drinking.

Terry  
Really...

Grant  
Yeah... it's a new thing with  
Me... I'm becoming sober.

Terry  
For god's sake.. don't talk  
Like that around here.  
You'll scare the kids.

Grant  
You're funny.

Terry  
No, I'm just joking.

Grant  
I know.

Terry  
Try and have a good time  
Anyway... O.k. Chief?

Grant  
Will do.

Macho  
You got any grass...?

Terry  
Outside.

Grant  
I'm gonna watch t.v. or  
Something.

Macho  
Better for both of us.

Terry  
Why.

Macho  
He's crazy when he gets  
Loaded.

Terry  
You don't have to tell me.  
He broke my 90,000 dollar  
Lalique table with a pool cue.

Grant  
God, I don't even remember that.

Terry  
It was a Monday night football game.

Grant  
Oh yeah, Raiders, jets.

Terry  
Well have a good time.

The party rages and we  
See Grant staring  
At an episode of  
Charlie's Angels.

Grant  
This is fun.

Jacobs  
Tell me aren't these  
Parties fabuolous?

Grant  
Yeah, but they are a  
Little different to  
Tell you the truth,  
When you aren't drinking.

Jacobs  
Well for god's sakes man,  
Indulge... you only live once.

Grant  
Oh I've lived once already.  
I've lived twice now. Just  
Since last week. No  
Thanks just the same.

Jacobs  
Really. How can you say no  
To an apple martini?

Grant  
I guess with an N and an O.

Jacobs  
Well, don't let me push you  
Into it.

Grant  
Thanks. I appreciate that.

Jacobs  
What are you watching?

Grant  
Just some old re-runs.

Jacobs  
Cable is fantastic isn't it?

Grant  
Truly.

Interior. Grant's apartment. The lights are dim. It's evening. He enters and turns on the lights. Emily plays softly on the stereo.

Grant  
Goodnight, Macho, Thanks.

Macho  
You need anything else?

Grant  
No, thanks, you go home,  
I'll be o.k.

Grant  
Any messages?

Macho  
Just a bill on the table  
For the girl's ambulance.  
And yours.

Grant  
Thanks.

Macho  
No problem.

Grant  
Go home. I'll be o.k.

He wanders around and checks the mail.  
The lights dim.

Interior. AA meeting.

Crowd  
Grant me the serenity to  
Accept the things I  
Cannot change. The courage  
To change the things I  
Can and the wisdom to  
Know the difference.  
Keep coming back it works  
If you work it. Amen.

Paul  
Thanks everyone for  
Attending tonight,  
If there are any last  
Minute shares we  
Are glad to hear them.

Grant  
Yes I'd like to speak.

Paul  
Go ahead.

Grant  
Well, I used to think

Crowd  
What's your name?

Grant  
Grant.and that's why  
When they said Grant me  
The serenity I thought they were  
Asking it from me, because  
That's my name, Grant.  
Anyway, I've been through a  
Hospital and a girlfriend's  
Suicide this week, so  
I'm not quite sure what I have left to  
Say except how grateful I am to  
Be here tonight. It really is an amazing  
Thing to be able to share the experiences  
Of all you wonderful people in this time of  
Despair for me. Thanks.

Exterior. Outside the AA meeting. People are mulling around smoking.

Grant  
Hi

Rita  
I really enjoyed what you had to say.

Grant  
Really. You did?

Rita  
Yeah. That took a lot of guts.

Grant  
Thanks.

Rita  
We're you close to her?

Grant  
Not so much.

Rita  
What made you come here?

Grant  
I don't know. I just thought  
It would be good for me.

Rita  
How much time do you have?  
If you don't mind me asking..

Grant  
Oh... a week. A week or so...

Rita  
Well, I don't usually do this...

We see a biker walk by... "Hi Rita"

Rita  
But if you want, you can come with me  
And we can grab some coffee.

Grant  
Sure, why not.

Interior. Starbucks Café. Fairfax and Olympic. Evening. Rita and Grant are talking.

Rita  
I'm from Portland originally.

Grant  
Really. I never would have guessed.

Rita  
Why not.

Grant  
I had you for a city girl.

Rita  
Come on. Portland's a big city.

Grant  
I didn't know. Honestly.

Rita  
I always thought I was the organic type.

Grant  
Organic. When people say organic I  
Think of marijuana.

Rita  
Oh... don't go there. I smoked  
For years.

Grant  
Me too.

Rita  
Why don't we talk about  
Something else?

Grant  
Like what.

Rita  
I don't know. The  
Weather or something.

Grant  
Nice day.. huh?

Rita  
I went to the beach.

Grant  
You surf?

Rita  
No I just had my cards read  
From my friend Robin. She's awesome.  
A real psychic.

Grant  
You're kidding.

Rita  
No, seriously, she tells me everything.

Grant  
What did she say?

Rita  
That tonight I would meet a man.

Grant (laughing)  
Does she say that a lot?

Rita  
Come on...

Grant  
I'm sorry.

Rita  
No, I mean, come on. Let's go.

We see the Ferrari drive away.

Exterior. Hollywood.

Interior. Rita's apartment. They enter and Grant kicks the cat by accident.

Rita  
That's rags.



Grant  
We'll from rags to riches.

Rita  
She's harmless.

Grant  
So what do you want to do?

Rita  
I don't know. What do you  
Want to do?

Grant  
I don't know. Play  
Strip poker?

Rita  
Normally gambling  
Is a trigger for me.

Grant  
Well I don't want to  
Send you on a binge.

Rita  
That's o.k. We can  
Play if you want.  
It's not so much gambling.

Grant  
That's true.

The scene progresses.  
We see them in their underwear.  
David Sandborn is playing on the radio.

Rita  
Full house.

Grant  
There goes my t shirt.

Rita  
I was hoping to win that.

Grant  
What do you mean.

Rita  
It was sort of a  
Creative visualization thing.

Grant  
Oh I see.

He takes off his t shirt.

Rita  
You're deal.

Grant  
I'm afraid to go on.

Rita  
Don't be scared.

Grant  
The cat might see.

Rita  
The cat is asleep.

Grant  
You sure.

Rita  
Oh yeah. It gets a  
Nap before practicing  
Screaming all night.

Grant  
What do you do.

Rita  
Throw my shoes.

Grant  
That's funny.

THEY START TO KISS.

Rita  
You want to quit?

Grant  
I surrender. You've  
Beaten me.

Rita  
Well, losing at  
This game isn't so bad.

They fall into bed.

Interior. Rita's apartment. Morning. The alarm clock is sounding. She comes over  
With a cup of coffee.

Rita  
I have to be at work in  
Twenty five minutes.

Grant  
What is it you do  
Again...?

Rita  
You never asked, dummy.

Grant  
Well, now I'm interested.

Rita  
All of a sudden...

Grant  
Tell me... come on..  
I won't laugh..

Rita  
I'm a veterinarian assistant.

Grant  
You throw shoes at your cat!

Rita  
Well, it works.

Grant  
Do you torture animals or  
Heal them?

Rita  
Heal them.

Grant  
Well that's good at least.

Rita  
Thank you. And you  
Do you have anyplace to  
Go this morning?

Grant  
No. Not that I can  
Think of...

Rita  
Why not...

Grant  
I'm rich...

Rita  
I didn't realize.

Grant  
It's not something  
I come right out  
And say.

Rita  
Why not?

Grant  
I don't know. Girls always  
Look at me differently when  
They realize it.

Rita  
Realize what?

Grant  
That I have money.

Rita  
There are other things to realize.

Grant  
Like what?

Rita  
Like what a nice man you are.

Grant  
Thank you for that.

Rita  
Well, you are. The first time  
I saw you I knew you  
Were a nice man. That's  
Why I stopped to talk to  
You.

Grant  
You're doing wonders for  
My self-esteem.

Rita  
Well, I'm afraid I have to go.

Grant  
Wow. Now I'm deflated.

Rita  
Let yourself out.

She kisses him and goes.  
Joe Walsh music here "All of A Sudden"

Grant smokes a cigarette and listens to the radio. He realizes she has forgotten to feed the cat as it MEOWS and he feeds the cat.

Grant  
See ya later rags.

Exterior. Rita's apartment. Grant gets in the car and starts to drive.

Grant (on the phone)  
What's up macho?

Macho (v.o)  
Your stock is down 95 cents.

Grant  
For god's sakes prepare my syringe.

Macho (v.o)  
Don't get hysterical

Grant  
I'm just joking. I'll be at  
The farmers market  
With all the old guys if  
You need me.

Macho  
o.k.

Exterior. Grant pulls into the farmers market. Afternoon. He orders a doughnut and sits next to an old man.

Grant  
You like the food here?

Mike  
Yes, it's very inexpensive.

Grant  
What do you do?

Mike  
I eat here twice a week.

Grant  
Retired?

Mike  
Yes, I'm from Brooklyn.  
I used to own an appliance  
Factory.

Grant  
What's that?

Mike  
You know, spoons, bowls,  
Dinnerware. We got iced out  
By the Chinese years ago  
And I sold the factory.

Grant  
Too bad.

Mike  
I have enough to live on.

Margarite comes over.

Margarite  
May I join you?

Mike  
Only if you're French.

Margarite  
I am. How did you know?

Mike  
Your accent gave you away.

Grant  
I'm Grant this is uh...

Mike  
Mike. Nice to meet you.

Margarite  
And you as well.

Mike  
What do you do Grant?

Grant  
I'm sort of retired too.

Margarite  
Ahh, you are too young.

Grant  
Maybe I'll take up writing  
Or something.

Margarite  
Are American's lazy?

Mike  
No, just beaten down  
By foreigners.

Margarite  
I see.

Grant  
I enjoy life though. I  
Don't like to think I'm beaten.

Mike  
We're beaten. Just look at her.

Grant  
God. You're right.

Margarite (winks)  
Otherwise I like Americans.  
They're funny.

Grant  
Do you always turn on a dime like that?

Margarite  
I hope not.

Mike  
He's just being catty.



She gets up to leave.

Grant  
Where are you going?

Margarite  
I'm beginning to think you  
Are disgusting.

Grant  
It just hit you?

Mike  
Come on, he's just young  
And foolish. A lot like  
You.

Margarite  
Maybe it's true.  
I'm going to look for books.

Grant  
Can I join you?

Margarite  
All right.

They start to walk.

Grant  
I've always liked French girls  
They have a certain  
Je'ne c'est qua...

Margarite  
Ah you speak French?

Grant  
Un petite peur.

Margarite  
Very good.

Grant  
I get better as the  
Time goes. Just work on me  
A little bit.

Margarite  
Maybe I will.

Fade out.